

Grover Cleveland Birthplace
207 Bloomfield Avenue
Caldwell, Essex County, New Jersey

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey
Seymour Williams, A.I.A., District Officer
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

Grover Cleveland Birthplace
207 Bloomfield Avenue
Caldwell, Essex County, New Jersey

Owner: State of New Jersey

Date of Erection: 1832

Architect:

Builder:

Present Condition: Excellent

Number of Stories: Two and one-half

Materials of Construction: Foundation - stone

Exterior walls - frame
construction, clapboards

Interior walls - plaster

Inside brick chimneys

Roof - pitch with peak
dormer, wood shingles

Historical Data:

The property upon which this house was built was acquired in 1784 and held in trust for the Caldwell Presbyterian Church. The church acquired the title of the property in 1791. The house itself was built in 1832 and was the original parsonage of

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the church; it cost upwards of \$1500.

On May 11, 1834, Reverend Richard F. Cleveland, of Baltimore, was chosen as the fourth pastor of the church. He remained there until the fall of 1840 when he resigned and went to Fayetteville, New York. During his pastorate a son was born to him; this son was born March 8, 1837 in the bedroom on the first floor. He was named Stephen Grover in honor of Caldwell's first installed minister. Later on the Stephen was dropped and he was known as Grover Cleveland, the twenty-second and twenty-fourth president of the United States.

The property passed to the Grover Cleveland Birthplace Memorial Association in 1913 and remained in their hands until 1934 when the State took it over. The society bought the house from the church for \$18,000.

Bibliography:

"Cleveland Memorial to Become State Shrine" Newark Evening News October 5, 1934

Norwood, B.R. Old Caldwell, A Retrospect 1699-1926 Caldwell, Progress Publishing Company, 1927

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